



City of Rossford
City Council
Facilities, Parks & Marina Committee
Meeting of February 17, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers.

Present were Council members Greg Marquette, Joseph "Moe" Minarcin and Jerry Staczek.

Committee member Jerry Staczek was nominated and selected as the committee chairman after the vote was passed unanimously.

Chairman Staczek reported to the committee that one item that has been completed at the marina as of this date is A-Dock has been re-decked.

Discussion took place regarding minutes and notes from the committee meetings need to be acted upon, not just approved. It was agreed that if no other council members take issue with the committee minutes during regular meetings of council that the committee would pursue acting upon recommendations of the committee in order to complete tasks.

Staczek recommended that 2016 dock rental rates be 'frozen' and that no increase be made this year. He stated that we are one of the highest priced marinas on the Maumee River.

Staczek made a motion to keep the rental rates the same as in 2015. The vote was 3-0, all in favor of freezing the rates.

Staczek stated that 4x4 wooden posts need to be attached to the docks on the North Wall. Councilman Minarcin questioned if this was a 'need or a want.' Staczek stated this was a 'need' because the docks are not anchored to poles, they are just resting on the north wall. He went on to say that other docks have twice the poles that we have in Rossford. He expressed concerns that the lake is expected to be three (3) inches higher this year as well.

Minarcin asked if the Department of Public Works has a problem with installing the posts. Staczek stated Superintendent Kolb doesn't have the time or manpower and that he will also have to make brackets for the posts. Minarcin questioned if the Public Works Superintendent should be present before proceeding with this discussion. Staczek responded, "No. There is a lot more stuff we need throughout the city." He asked that the committee proceed. Councilman Marquette stated the committee should keep in mind that Tyler Kolb is going to have two (2) new employees soon but they would be inexperienced who won't understand work on the marina. Marquette went on to say that we have invested money into the marina and that he has no problem with continuing to invest in a profitable marina, so long as costs are kept down. Minarcin asked why the issue of placing posts at the end of wall docks is just now coming up if this is truly a need? Staczek responded that he did not know, but that part of what brings this matter to attention is the recent high waters and the finger docks that needed longer poles to prevent leaning during storms, heavy rains and high water. Minarcin, in an attempt to prioritize, asked if the finger docks or north wall docks were more pressing of an issue to address at this time. Staczek said, on a scale from one (1) to ten (10), ten being of most importance, he would categorize the Finger Docks at "10" and the Wall Docks at a "9."

Resident Tiffany Densic, in the audience, asked if less trash containers would free-up Public Works time to commit to other things. Staczek said that this was brought up at the last meeting and voted "No." Marquette said, "If you reduce receptacles, you will have garbage on the ground."

Chairman Staczek stated, "We will monitor water level forecasts better this year; and made a motion to place posts & poles at the end of docks," after the motion was amended to include Minarcin's request that the Finger Docks be priority #1 and the wall docks be priority #2. Minarcin also required that the Chairman speak with City Administrator Mike Scott and DPW Sup't. Tyler Kolb before proceeding. During discussion on the proposed motion, Minarcin asked Staczek if he had discussed this matter with Mr. Kolb. Staczek said that he did and that Kolb had problems with time and manpower. He went on to say, "This is a safety issue." Marquette agreed that communication regarding proceeding with the installation of post and poles go from Chairman Staczek to Administrator Scott. A vote was taken and passed unanimously with all members voting for the work to be completed.

Chairman Staczek then presented an expense report showing that the Marina has a total of \$54,860.00 in the account. He requested that banners be placed along the marina but reported that the Administrator told him the funding was not in the budget.

Staczek went on to explain to the committee that there is approximately \$24,000.00 in the budget for buildings and building improvements, yet the only building is the Security Guard Office ("Guard Shack"). He referred to the money allotted to fund items that will not be used as "dummy line items." Staczek said he inquired about the Marina budget with Finance Director Karen Freeman and was told that is just the way it was budgeted. Marquette said that council could move the money from one line item to another if necessary, stating, "We can move money over to things we need."

Staczek presented the committee with a 2015 and 2016 budget comparison. Staczek that the brunt of Public Works funding that comes from the Marina budget is primarily installing and removing docks and the use of a rental crane at the beginning and end of each boating season.

Minarcin asked Staczek how many banners he felt was needed. Staczek suggested five (5) in the marina proper and additional banners along the Hannum Avenue entrance. Marquette pointed out that someone will have to place brackets on the poles in which the banners would be displayed. Minarcin said the brackets also have to be pretty sturdy to hold the banners safely.

Minarcin stated that in March of 2014 there was committee discussion on restroom buildings at the marina and Veteran's Park. Staczek said that he had information indicating that a building that housed a meeting room, restroom, showers & maintenance room could be available for about \$120,000.00. He stated that council needs to address remodeling the Rossford Municipal Building as well. He questioned why it was not being taken care of and that the issue should be brought up at a regular meeting of Council. Mayor Neil MacKinnon, who was present at the meeting, advised the committee that on Wednesday February 24th new carpet is to be installed in the municipal building's main entrance and hallway and on Saturday the 27th, the remainder of the building would be completed.

Staczek, returning to Marina matters, suggested that the port-a-potty along the northeast parking lot be placed farther away from the river to prevent fishermen from urinating behind it. He also requested that marina security guards and police enforce the 'no parking' areas of the marina parking lot. Staczek stated a "bottleneck" is created when fishermen park improperly. Police Chief Glenn Goss said that he would address the matter with the guards at the beginning of the season.

Marquette asked if every wall-dock comes with its own parking space. Staczek said that there is one spot per dock, but due to the barge being parked in dock #1, all parking spaces do not correspond with the docks. A motion to have the parking spaces along

the north wall repainted and numbered was presented by Mr. Staczek and passed unanimously by the committee.

Staczek reported that the fence along the north wall drive with "no fishing" signs posted on it also needs to be enforced by marina guards. Chief Goss again acknowledged the issue and stated he would inform the guards of their duties.

Staczek said that a lot of money is invested into boats and that he felt the marina guards should remain on duty for an additional three (3) weeks at the end of season. He suggested that guards at least remain on the midnight shift during this time. Marquette asked if there have been an increase in theft or vandalism since the reduction in security was made years ago. Staczek said, "No," and went on to explain that a shift of security is \$100 and asked if the committee wanted to take a gamble on \$100 dollars. Minarcin asked Staczek to get with Police Chief Goss and City Administrator Scott to look into police calls to the marina to determine if the extended security would be necessary. Staczek said the decision should be made now, before docks are rented in order to inform boaters of what services are provided by the City.

The committee discussed the liability of the City as it relates to theft and vandalism to boats and personal property at the marina. Also discussed was that three (3) additional weeks of security, if only on midnight shift, would cost an additional \$2,100.00 based on the \$100 per shift estimate from Mr. Staczek. Each boat owner should have their own insurance to cover theft or vandalism was also discussed.

Resident Tiffany Densic, who rents a dock along with her husband Bob Densic, stated that at least two (2) women stay at the marina overnight on the weekends when guards are not there. She said that on midnight shift, the ladies prefer security. Staczek said that the City could at least cover midnight shift. Marquette asked if boaters stay on their boats that long. Mrs. Densic said, "Yes." Marquette suggested the committee look into this further and that Mr. Staczek should talk to Mr. Scott about this because safety is important. Minarcin stated that this issue has never been brought to the committee before. Staczek made a motion to extend midnight shift security for an additional three (3) weeks at the end of boating season; the committee added that the motion also included future discussion between the committee chairman, the police chief and to present the matter to city administration to include liability, cost, manpower, and information given in the dock renters' agreement. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman Staczek then brought up the matter of "B-Dock" needing re-built. He said that "A-Dock" was re-decked and that the other docks have not been redone for about 19 years. He also said that the wall docks need to be repainted. Minarcin suggested putting the repainting on a "want" list. Marquette suggested painting one wall a year.

Staczek stated that Don Smith, an owner of other marinas in the area, along with Mr. Staczek will be having an informal meeting soon with the U.S. Coast Guard. He said that he would invite the other committee members and that the meeting should take place within two weeks.

Staczek told the committee that the "Ohio Clean Marina" organization, which can be located online through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) website, will come to Rossford, inspect our marina and point out corrections needed. He said the service is free of charge and that no citations are issued. He said that the service may help in obtaining grants for the marina later. The inspection is completely voluntary. Mr. Minarcin said that he would like to see some reports that the organization have created regarding other marinas before proceeding.

Mayor MacKinnon brought up a problem with geese and their waste throughout the marina and park. The committee agreed to look into the concern more and determine if there is a deterrent for the geese. Staczek said that building bird houses from gourds will bring in Purple Martin birds that help in the elimination of spiders around the boats and docks. He may look into PENTA School in building such houses for the birds.

Chief Goss presented the committee with information regarding a Local Government Safety Capital Grant Program in which he would like to apply for. The grant, which includes up to \$100,000.00 for equipment, vehicles and facilities that are jointly used by multiple agencies could be applied for to upgrade the shooting range located in the basement of the police department. The Chief said that he has four (4) other agencies on board to support MOU's and that Karen Freeman has suggested presenting this grant opportunity to the Finance Committee of City Council to see if a match of funds would be possible. Goss explained that any amount of local funding along with multi-agency use of the range would increase the likeliness of approval. He told the committee that currently the metal backstop causes ricochet off shrapnel from high powered rifles and could be replaced with a new rubber backstop and that new target machines would increase officer safety and tactical abilities. The committee voted in favor of supporting the grant application.

Audience Remarks:

Bob Densic, resident, stated that he would like to use the "black water" pump-out but that many boats cannot reach the pump where it is located due to shallow water. Staczek said that he was told last year that the pump cannot be portable along the water, but has since then been informed it can be. Discussion took place among the committee members and audience regarding sewage pump usage, its portability to

boats. Mr. Staczek said that he will contact Ohio Clean Marinas and find out about the legality of using the pump. He will also speak with Tyler Kolb to see if the pump is in good working order.

Tiffany Densic asked the committee to consider a locked restroom for boat dock renters only due to the mess often left in the port-a-potties from those other than boaters. Mayor MacKinnon said that the marina and parks are public places and that the City would not prohibit anyone from using a public restroom. Mrs. Densic suggested an additional restroom, not to lock others out of the existing restrooms. The Mayor again responded that he did not feel this should happen in a public facility. Densic told the Mayor that this matter is up to council, not the Mayor. The Mayor said, "It's not happening," referring to limiting access to restroom facilities.

Staczek made a motion to adjourn. All members voted in favor of adjournment. The meeting ended at 8:23 pm.